

# HAUNTED SAN QUENTIN STATE PRISON

BY PAUL DALE ROBERTS, HALO PARANORMAL INVESTIGATIONS

I can honestly say that I believe that ALL prisons are haunted — inmates are murdered and executed in prisons, and others commit suicide. One of those prisons is San Quentin State Prison in California.

I have been to San Quentin. No, not as an inmate, but as a guest. My former best man, Sandy, invited me and my family to have lunch at the prison. His wife was the acting warden for a short time, and Sandy was an attorney for the State of California. You could see the prison from Sandy's home.

When we arrived at the prison to have lunch, we were told not to make any kind of eye contact with the inmates. So, when I was eating my lunch, I definitely kept focused on my food.

I had two former correctional officers in my family who would shower me with stories about working in the prison system. And while I was eating my lunch at the prison, the only thing I could think about was just how haunted is this prison?

I already had heard a few stories from when I worked at the Department of Justice. There were two notable cases I worked on: Charles Manson's file and Roman Polanski's file. My job was to key in new information into these files. During my short time at the Department, I met a couple of correctional officers who worked at San Quentin. The first thing I asked them was if they ever experienced anything paranormal at the prison. To my surprise, both officers said, "Yes."

One of the correctional officers that I befriended claimed that Amos Lunt, an executioner at San Quentin in the late 1800s, still haunts the prison. He said he had actually seen Lunt's ghost while working there. The correctional officer said that during one encounter, Lunt's spirit was sitting on the floor weeping.

Both correctional officers said that inmates complained at times about seeing ghosts in their cells. In fact, one inmate complained that a ghost kept pulling his



**The ghost of former San Quenton executioner Amos Lunt is said to haunt the prison.**

blankets off of him. The inmate requested to be moved into another cell.

At San Quentin, 215 prisoners were hanged, 196 prisoners went to the gas chamber, and 11 received lethal injection. With all of these deaths, not counting the murders and suicides, there have been a lot of people who died in San Quentin. Women were also executed at San Quentin. Women death row inmates are transferred from Central California Women's Facility by bus to San Quenton for execution. That is probably the reason why a couple of inmates have claimed that they saw a ghostly woman at the prison with long brown hair floating around from cell to cell.

San Quentin opened in 1852. From 1852 to 1944, when prisoners were interrogated, they were tortured. Some were tortured to death. That ended in 1944. The torture of inmates seems to have left a strong residual energy in the prison. With all of the negative energy that resonates in this prison, the hauntings must be a hundred-fold. ♦